



NMEE CLUB NEWS

Volume 6, Issue 4

Azaroa (November) 2010

NeW MeXico EUSKAL ETXeA
BASQUE CLUB OF NeW MeXICO
MeXICO BERRIKO EUSKAL ETXeA
CLUB VASCO De NDeVO MeXICO
Le CLUB BASQUE De NOUVEAU MeXIQUE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear NMEE Members and Friends,

I have happy thoughts reflecting on 2010. NMEE has continued to be a cultural haven for great camaraderie and amazing food, and continues to be a successful organization. I am honored to have served as the NM Basque Club's President this year.

This year, after being off for a year, we had a wonderful Tapas event that brought new and old friends from several states and cultures, and of course a wonderful time by all, including our bank account. Our cooking class has been a joy not only for all who participated, but for those of us who will benefit in the years to come from the dishes that will be served in future potluck gatherings. In particular, I look forward to the morcilla at the next potluck. We give a gracious thank you to Chef James Campbell Caruso of La Boca for the October class.

We have a potluck scheduled at noon on November 14 in Rio Rancho at the home of Eve Cobos. Eve will not only host the potluck, but will also do a reading from her book, "Those that Laugh Win, to Ruben Cobos with Love, A Memoir," a book about her father.

Our picnic was the highest attended picnic in the last three years, and luckily, neither rain nor bees made the invitation list. Everything was good, with the fresh air and picturesque mountain scenes adding to the overall enjoyment of the day.

This last month we also had the Oreka Tx musicians from the Basque Country, continuing with everything we expected from this great weekend.

Overall, it has been a very good year, thank you all for the successes we shared and I look forward to sharing more with each of you in the years to come.

Roger Martínez y Mondragón
2010 NMEE President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Potluck & Book Signing

Hosted by Eve Cobos
Sunday, Nov 14, 2010
12pm
Rio Rancho
See page 2 for details

Sheep Wagon Dedication

Sunday, Nov 14, 2010
12-5pm
Las Cruces
See page 2 for details

Election

November
Contact: Blas
505.670.9642

Tapas Stroll

Jan or Feb 2011
Albuquerque
Contact: Sherry
505.474.3254

*We need people to organize events
or host potlucks in 2011-
Contact any Board Member to
lend a hand!*

MEMBER PORTRAIT

By Tricia Erazo Penn

Bob Himmerich y Valencia considers himself a social historian, and immediately began sharing with me his rich knowledge of the Spanish influence in America's west. He is



of mixed Spanish and German descent. It is his wife, Eva, who is of Basque descent. So, in a way, this article is about both of them, as active members in NMEE.

Bob was a corporal in the Marines when he met Eva. Eva was born and raised on a ranch in Orange County. Bob was born in South Dakota. His dad was a railroader boilermaker and the family went where the work was, which was all over the US. His dad supported his railroad habit by farming. If they would be stationed at a place for 3 months, his dad would farm and have livestock, which provided them with food, and then sell when they moved.

Bob moved to Santa Fe his junior year and graduated from Santa Fe High. New Mexico is where he felt most at home. While in the Marines, he attended night school, eventually earning a degree in history, followed by a Master's degree in colonial Spanish history. Bob and Eva visited Santa Fe in 1973, on their way back from Mexico, where he was working on his thesis. Thereafter, they regularly visited Santa Fe from their home in Orange County, where Bob finished his PhD and taught at UCLA. They moved to Santa Fe permanently in 1985, when Bob was hired at UNM, and taught Spanish American History there until 1999. He also taught US Naval History for ROTC, and was an editor of the New Mexico Historical Review. Eva was hired as a bilingual teacher for Kearny Elementary. After her 'retirement' she taught Spanish at Ortiz Middle School part-time, and English as a Second Language at Santa Fe Community College.

Bob remains active on the board of trustees for Las Golondrinas. He is also a member of the Santa Fe Fiesta Foundation and the Museum of New Mexico Foundation. He is even involved with the Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces, where Bob and Eva have donated equipment. They live off Highway 14, but also farm in Peña Blanca where they have grown blue corn, pinto beans, wheat for seed, Yucan Gold potatoes, alfalfa, oats and barley. Bob and Eva's roots will always remain with the country.



AUTUMN POTLUCK

Sunday, November 14, 2010

12 pm

Bring a favorite dish or try your hand at a new Basque recipe!

At the home of Evelia Cobos
649 Vancouver Rd SE, Rio Rancho
505.891.2516



BASQUE SHEEP WAGON

The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum invites us to join them for the Dedication of the Sheep and Goat Barn, featuring a contemporary wagon built in the style of the old Basque sheep wagons, on:

Sunday, November 14, 2010

12-5 pm

Admission: Only \$1 per person

4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces
575.522.4100

www.nmfarmandranchmuseum.org

GATEAUX BASQUE FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



Remember that amazing dessert at the Tapas event last spring? It was consumed seconds after it was served...

Longtime NMEE supporter, Santa Fe Pastry Chef Diane Perkins, will offer her delectable Gateaux Basque at a discount to NMEE members and friends for our holiday entertaining. Cakes may be purchased for \$25 each, and each cake serves 8-10 people.

Cakes will be available for pick-up in Santa Fe on each Friday in December. Cakes must be ordered no later than the Monday before the desired pick-up date.

To place an order, send an email or leave a phone message with Chef Perkins stating your desired pick-up date and the number of cakes you wish to purchase:

chefdianeperkins@gmail.com
505.995.1322

Mail advance payment

(\$25 per cake) to:

Diane Perkins
705 E. Alameda, #8
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Then **pick up your cakes** at
The Spanish Table in Santa Fe
109 N. Guadalupe Street

Enjoy this quintessential Basque dessert at all your holiday gatherings!



BUBER-TIK

By Blas Pedro Uberuaga

This past July, Boise played host to Jaialdi, the largest Basque festival certainly in the United States, attracting tens of thousands of Basques and non-Basques alike. The four-day event was filled with activity, with groups from all over the world performing Basque improvisational poetry (bertsolaritza), traditional dance and song, and sporting events inspired by life on the baserria (farm house). Official delegations from the Basque government were on hand to participate, declaring the Basque diaspora to be the 8th Basque province. Overall, it was a great weekend filled with old and new friends, great food, and a lot of fun. The next Jaialdi will be in 2015. Put it on our calendars now!



NOTES FROM NABO

By Blas Pedro Uberuaga

On July 30, New Mexico Euskal Etxea was accepted as a member of the North American Basque Organization (NABO; www.nabasque.org). NABO is an umbrella organization for Basque clubs in North America, including 40 organizations in the US and two in Canada. The lehendakari (president) of the Basque government, Patxi Lopez, gave introductory remarks. Other guests included Sho Hagio, of the Tokyo Euskal Etxea. After updates on past business, including from the History, Pilota, Mus, Euskara, and Udaleku (summer camp) committees, John Ysursa gave an update on his idea for an initiative that he called Aukera, or choice in Basque. The idea is to make the Basque culture attractive to young people so that they choose it as something they want to embrace, to help ensure that Basque culture continues to thrive in the US. Another item of note was from Anita Franzoia, who is organizing tours to the Basque Country. You can find info at EFTours.com. New business included a discussion about the future of Udaleku. The next summer camp for children to learn about dance, music, folklore, and more will be hosted by the San Francisco club. Details will follow shortly, but if you are interested, be sure to respond quickly as spots fill fast. Finally, the meeting ended with the reelection of Grace Mainvil as treasurer and Valerie Arrechea as president. Upcoming meetings, which are held three times per year, will be in Rocklin (which was actually held in October), Salt Lake City, Buffalo, and Montreal.

Being part of NABO offers NMEE many new opportunities. Not only will we be better plugged in to Basque-related events going on in other parts of the country, giving us more chances to bring groups to New Mexico, but we will have the ability to participate in activities such as Udaleku and the national Mus tournaments. The collective knowledge and experience that comprises NABO is tremendous, with people who will be a boon to us as a Basque organization. I'm personally very excited that we are now part of NABO and look forward to a long interaction with them.

The biggest news coming out of the Basque Country in the last few months was a declared ceasefire by Euskadi ta Askatasuna -- ETA. ETA has been waging a violent campaign since the 1960s for independence, first against the government of Francisco Franco and later against the democratically elected governments of Spain. This is their third declared ceasefire; the others were ended by ETA after talks with the government did not go as they wished. This third ceasefire has been met with mixed reactions. Some view this as the most strongly stated ceasefire yet, with ETA stating that "in the right conditions," they would be ready to disarm and with leaders of Batasuna, ETA's political wing, saying ETA should renounce violence. However, Spanish officials dismiss this latest ceasefire as more of the same.



PRO ISABA & NEW MEXICO - ISABA (homenaje y hermanamiento)
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<http://www.buber.net/NMEE/Archive/Projects/isaba.php>
FACEBOOK: Isaba Newmexico

Our friend in Isaba, Josep Oms Piera, just finished with the "First Meeting of the Isaba emigrants -- The Gathering of the Diaspora Izabal." It was held in Isaba on July 10-12 and was a smashing success. The events were chaired by the President of the Government of the province of Navarre, the Honorary Consul in Santa Fe, NM, and the Mayor of Isaba.

The festivities were attended by 200 people from outside of Navarre, including 60 Americans, making it possible for family members from opposite sides of the ocean to meet for the first time. The entire population of Isaba also participated. Maps showed where the houses of different families were, facilitating familial reconnections after 100 years of emigration. The goal of reconnecting these two separate groups of Basques was fulfilled.

Next, it is New Mexico's turn to play host. In October 2011, New Mexico will organize the second gathering of these Basques from Isaba, both those who attended the festivities this year as well as those who could not make it. The people of Navarre and the rest of Spain are organizing a two week visit to New Mexico and the USA.

Josep sent photos and a report of the gathering in Isaba. If anyone would like a copy of the PDF, please send an email to nmee@buber.net.



Zorionak Josep and Isaba, New Mexico looks forward to welcoming you in 2011!

BASQUE MYTHOLOGY

By Blas Pedro Uberuaga

Izena duen guztia... bada! Everything that has a name, exists, or so goes the ancient Basque saying. This certainly goes for Olentzero, the Basque "Santa". Originally one of the jentillak, or giants, Olentzero warns his brothers that Jesus is about to be born and their time is done. Today, however, he is a charcoal-burner who spreads the good news of Jesus' birth. In the Basque Country, children wander the streets collecting sweets, similar to Halloween here. In Mungia, in Bizkaia, you can even find Olentzero's house, which also showcases other figures from Basque mythology, such as Mari and Tartalo. You can find information about Olentzero's house at www.izenaduba.com.



9/5/10 Eskerrik asko to Eva Valencia de Himmerich for organizing a delightful picnic this year!
Photo by Paul Morrison



10/23/10 Eskerrik asko to Karen Squires & Chef James Campbell Caruso for a gastronomically inspiring cooking class!
Photo by Lisa Van De Graaff



9/26/10 Eskerrik asko to Blas Uberuaga, Oreka Tx, and the organizers of ¡Globalquerque! for two incredible Txalaparta experiences!
Additional thank yous to Lou Ollivier Amestoy, Tricia Erazo Penn, Joe Frank, and Joleen Rocque-Frank and Mike's Music Exchange for their assistance with event logistics.
Ron Panebouef generously donated an autographed copy of the Oreka Tx video to our Club library – Contact Lisa Van De Graaff to check it out.

BASQUE PROVERB

Source: Jon Aske via www.buber.net

**Mendiak mendia behar ez du,
baina gizonak gizona bai**

"Mountains don't need other mountains, but people do need other people."

THE 2010 NMEE BOARD

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<http://buber.net/NMEE/>

NABO Meeting



The New Mexico state flag hung proudly
with the flags of other U.S. states and
Canadian provinces at the
July NABO meeting!



New Mexico Euskal Etxea
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